

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

May 9, 1997

Benjamin L. Ginsberg, Esquire Robert P. Ritger, Esquire Patton Boggs, L.L.P. 2550 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20037-1350

RE: MUR 4317 and MUR 4323

The Honorable Mike Huckabee
Huckabee Election Committee
(U.S. Senate) and
Prissy Hickerson, as treasurer
Huckabee Election Committee and
Prissy Hickerson, as treasurer

Dear Mr. Ginsberg and Mr. Ritger:

On October 16, 1996, the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") found reason to believe in MUR 4317 that the Huckabee Election Committee (U.S. Senate) and Prissy Hickerson, as treasurer, ("the Senate Committee") had violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b and 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(3)(A), and in MUR 4323 that the Huckabee Election Committee and Prissy Hickerson, as treasurer ("the State Committee"), the Senate Committee, and the Honorable Mike Huckabee had violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b. In the latter matter the Commission also found reason to believe that the Senate Committee had violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(3)(A).

At your request, on May 6, 1997, the Commission determined to enter into negotiations directed towards reaching a conciliation agreement in settlement of this matter prior to a finding of probable cause to believe.

Enclosed is a conciliation agreement that the Commission has approved in settlement of this matter. This proposed agreement contains all of the violations cited above except a Senate Committee violation of 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)(3)(A) in MUR 4323. If your clients agree with the provisions of the enclosed agreement, please sign and return it, along with the civil penalty, to the Commission. In light of the fact that conciliation negotiations, prior to a finding of probable cause to believe, are limited to a maximum of 30 days, you should respond to this notification as soon as possible.

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If you have any questions or suggestions for changes in the agreement, or if you wish to arrange a meeting in connection with a mutually satisfactory conciliation agreement, please contact me at (202) 219-3400.

Sincerely, fined. Wiesenhon

Anne A. Weissenborn

Senior Attorney

Enclosure
Conciliation Agreement